



Volume 23

An ARCEC Monthly Publication

April 2014

Counterpoise Editor - Sue Robins AF6LJ

Teaching Boy Scouts about Ham Radio

By Pat Bunsold – WA6MHZ Edited by Sue Robins- AF6LJ

Editor's Note;

There are few endeavors that have as much impact on the future of our society as molding and shaping our youth to become the leaders of tomorrow's world. Scouting is such an endeavor, and it pleases me to no end to see The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon take part in that endeavor.

Early on the morning of March 29th, members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon met at church in the San Carlos area of San Diego for a Boy Scout Merit badge fair. Attending were Scoutmaster Chuck KJ6ECY, Merit badge trainer Paul KJ6BYF, Club Treasurer Dave KI6GRN, and Club President WA6MHZ Helping out in the Field was Vice President Peter KJ6VCM. Beginning at about 7:30 AM we rounded up about 8 boys anxious to qualify for the very prestigious RADIO Merit badge. Paul conducted the class which went well, and all the boys were quite enthused about Ham Radio.

After the classroom phase of the class we all went out and toured the Town Car where I



explained how APRS works and showed them the Town Car on findu.com

The Town Car is on the Map 24/7. so it cannot be stolen. If it ever was, I just give the police the address. and they will know EXACTLY where it is within about 3 feet! There was the WPX Contest going on and the scouts listened to the contesters work many stations.

ARCEC Repeater Frequencies

2 Meter Repeater	220 MHZ Repeater	440 MHZ Repeater
TX 146.475	TX 220.480	TX 440.900
RX 147.420	RX 224.080	RX 445.900
Offset .945	Offset 1.6	Offset 5.00
PL 107.2	PL 107.2	PL 107.2





Then it was on to the Hands on portion of the course, where Chuck had set up a portable station for the Scouts to make contacts on.



Dave was the control operator for all the contacts



Chuck has a very innovative antenna for 2M. it has plate mounted on some thick PVC where a mag-mount antenna base attaches. Out in the field, Peter was up in Claremont at a Bowling alley where he was able to hit the Lyons Peak repeater just great. Peter talked to all the boys who were very excited to get on the air. The class was secured around 11:30AM, and we had nice light lunch. Hopefully we have inspired some boys to consider Ham Radio as an avocation to get into. I mentioned I had earned my license when I was their age, and it has been great hobby ever since! They were all very impressed.

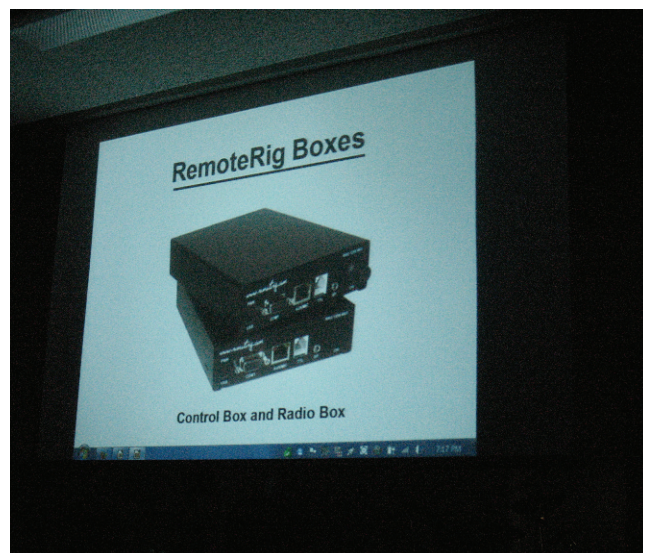
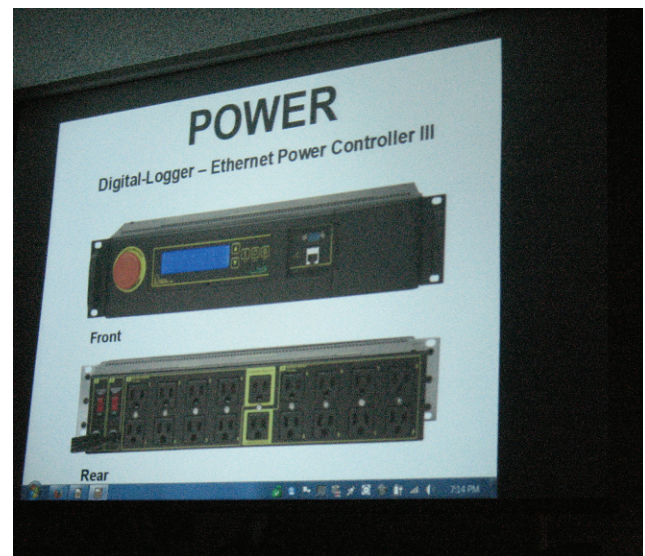
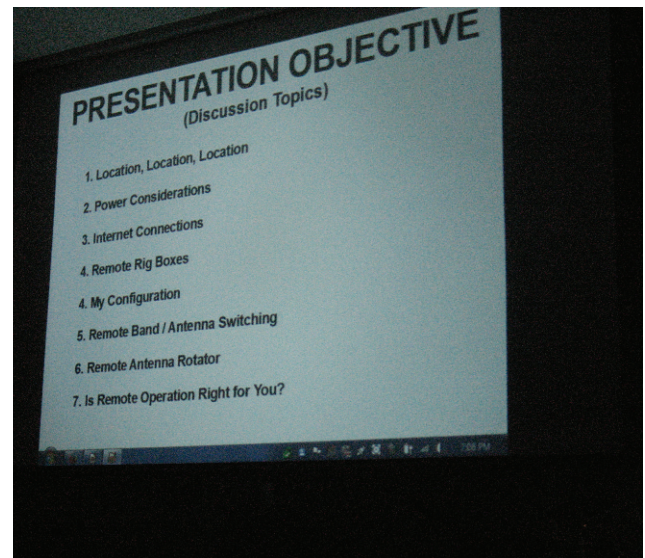




A Remotely Operated Ham Station Using A Portable Control Point

By Sue Robins AF6LJ

At our April meeting ARCEC members were treated to a presentation and demonstration of Dave Goodwin's (WB4LCN) remotely operated station. The station is comprised of fixed equipment located at a home in Crest and a portable computer with an interface unit and control head for the radio located in a brief case. The station which includes radio, antenna switch, rotor, a power control panel and a radio interface box is connected to the Internet by way of a router. What makes this all come together and work is a set of interface boxes manufactured under the name Remote Rig. Remoterig.com This company makes a number of devices that can be used to interface radios and supporting equipment across networks. This equipment makes it possible for hams to operate their stations remotely from a computer or a smartphone. Dave gave a very good presentation wherein he outlined out the challenges in implementing this means of remote operation. Dave also gave a demonstration of the remote station, it was as if the radio and antenna were at our location the audio was very good and there appeared to be very little latency. We were treated to a wonderfully informative presentation.



Next Month's Meeting

"The Cart"

A presentation

by

Joe Bennett – W6VMX

At the May meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon on May 8th, 7pm Joe Bennett (W6VMX) will give a presentation on his mobile radio support system, "The Cart". He will give some of the history on how he came to originally design and build it, as well as how it has evolved over the last few years to become what it is today. "The Cart" will be on display to so you can see exactly what has gone into its construction. There will also be a presentation by Joe at the upcoming South Bay Amateur Radio Society meeting on May 14th at 7pm too. Come on out and see what "The Cart" is all about and maybe get a few ideas for your go kit or the next field day too. "The Cart" will also be at the upcoming Operating Day at Fry's on the 26th of April, so you can see it in operation. See you there!!!!

Parting Comments

What struck me about this month's presentation was how Broadband Hamnet, also known as HSMM-MESH was a natural for Dave's application, turns out the cost of two high speed Internet connections is nothing to sneeze at. This could be a viable option for remote operations that have a fixed control point, or a mobile control point that operates nearby.

The San Diego Six Shooters are holding an operating day event at Fry's Electronics 9825 Stonecrest Blvd in San Diego on April 26, 2014. ARCEC is one of the invited radio clubs and we are hoping for a large member turnout. The Operating Day Event is an event to show the general public what amateur radio is all about. Last year's sported a diverse array of mobile and portable stations operating from HF through UHF and all modes. Show your support for the hobby and our club, better yet bring someone who has not been exposed to amateur radio. The event begins at 9:00 AM and concludes at 5:30 PM, hope to see you there. *****

If you have something you would like to see in Counterpoise send that content to counterpoise@wa6bgs.us You are what makes the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, we wouldn't exist without you the membership. Join us at our meetings and activities and become a part of the club.



Early bird registration has begun for the 2014 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention to be held September 12-14 at the Four Points By Sheraton. For more information visit; <http://www.sandarc.net/>

Club Shirts & Jackets

We have 2013 club shirts and jackets available at meetings and from the club website. Shirts are available sizes from small to XX large, this year's shirt has a pocket and as usual is green in color with the club logo in white. The cost is \$12.00 each. You can get a 2013 Field Day shirt or the standard club shirt, both styles of shirts have the club logo on the back and the left side.

Jackets are also available in sizes ranging from Medium to XX large. These are of the lined windbreaker style, with side pockets and they snap down the front. The cost is \$24.00 each.

We also have a number of shirts from 2012, these shirts are identical to the 2013 shirts without the pocket, and they are available in both the standard club shirt and the 2012 Field Day shirt. Sizes are limited to stock on hand. For more information regarding our club shirts see; <http://wa6bgs.us/2013-club-shirts-and-jackets/>